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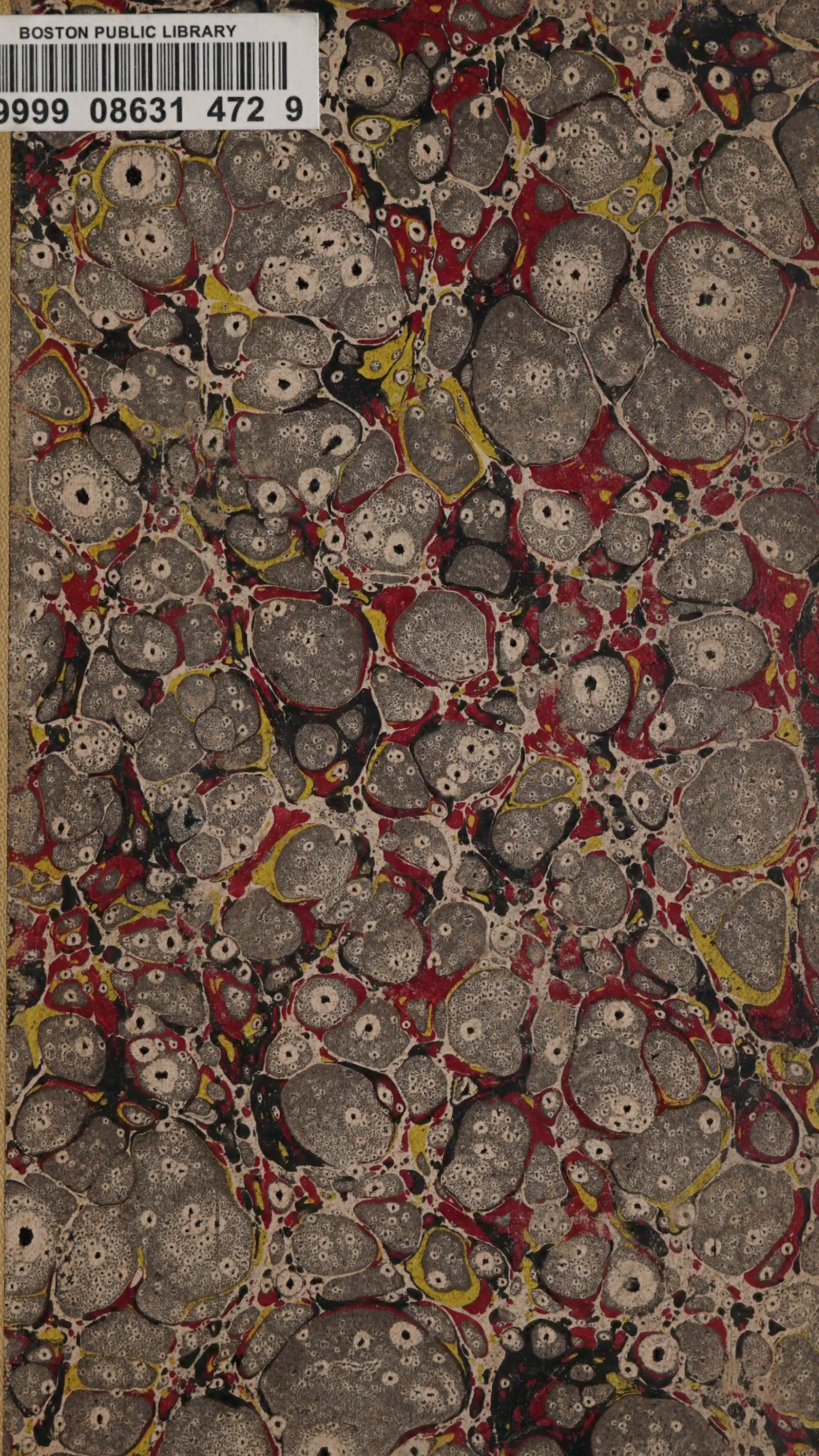

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SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

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Tabernacle

Young Men's Institute

Addresses

BY

REV. PHILIP S. MOXOM,

MR. W. H. BALDWIN,
President of the Y. M. C. Union,

HON. E. M. MCPHERSON,
President Y. M. C. Association.

PUBLISHED FROM THE ROOMS, NO. 5 CHARDON ST., BOSTON, MASS.

MARCH, 1890.

OFFICERS.

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NATHANIEL F. THAYER.

Vice President,
GEO. R. KELSO.

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L. P. ADAMS.

Treasurer,
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ALBERT S. STAFFORD.

Auditor,
R. W. CONE.

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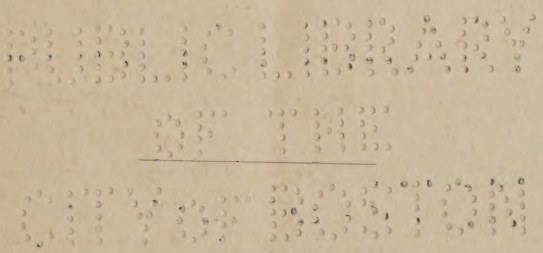
W. H. PRETAT.
W. E. THOMAS.
H. S. HAYWARD.
GEO. F. LAKIN.
T. D. ROBERTS.
M. R. DEMING.

A Growing Plant of Benevolence

WHICH NEEDS

RAIN and SUNSHINE

(Prayers and Money.)



Please Read this Yourself and Circulate it among Your Friends.

N. E. Methodist. Hist. Soc

Dec 13. 1793

PUBLIC LIBRARY
OF THE
CITY OF BOSTON

Report of the Executive Committee.

PRESENTED BY PRESIDENT CHARLES A. UFFORD.

THE past year has been spent in an effort to hold and fortify the ground which we have already won.

When the new high license law went into effect, we took advantage of it to petition against several of the saloons which we judged were the most dangerous in making drunkards out of boys and young men. We hereby record our thanks to the Police Commissioners for refusing licenses to these saloons. We are the more grateful because we know that tremendous influence was brought to bear to induce them to grant the licenses.

As far as present appearances go, it would seem that high license is a lesser evil than low license. There are fewer drunken men on the streets. The saloons made vacant have all been occupied by parties in legitimate business. Thus the appearance of the streets has been improved. We would rejoice to have the saloons further reduced to one for each thousand inhabitants.

One year ago the Institute was a tenant of the present premises, No. 5 Chardon Street. The lease expired May 1st. Before that time arrived, friends of our enterprise rallied and formed a *legal corporation* known as the Tabernacle Young Men's Institute for "charitable, educational and religious purposes, such as the establishment and maintenance of places for reading-rooms, libraries, social meetings, industrial schools, employment bureaus and flower and fruit missions."

The officers of the corporation are, Benjamin F. Sturtevant, President; George R. Kelso, Secretary; S. B. Thing, Treasurer;

Directors, Chester W. Kingsley, G. F. D. Paine, S. A. Wilbur.

The corporation has purchased Nos. 5 and 7 Chardon Street. There is a mortgage of twenty thousand dollars on the property which it is hoped may soon be cancelled by donations or legacies.

Some attention has been given by the active workers of the Institute, toward aiding the organization of the Boston Missionary Training School, which has rented No. 7 Chardon Street.

The Institute cannot remodel the two houses without large expense. It has recently enlarged the reading-room, and will increase the number of magazines and newspapers.

A new building is the greatest need; one which will contain a hall, class-rooms, social-rooms, a gymnasium, and accommodations for an industrial school for boys.

The Executive Committee would express its hearty thanks to the artists who have given the Saturday evening concerts, to the ladies who have labored faithfully in the Girls' Industrial School and in the Flower Mission, to the teachers of the evening classes, and to all the friends who have donated money, cloth, flowers and fruit. It is a cause of profound gratitude that our work in routing the places of vice in this part of the city, and organizing and carrying forward the various practical charities described in the preceding reports, met with instantaneous and universal sympathy and support. How brightly Christian Boston stands out in contrast with vicious Boston. May the light increase and the darkness recede!

REPORT OF MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE.

Number of new members, 49; renewals, 27; honorary members, 97; total, 173.

FLOWER AND FRUIT MISSION.

REPORTED BY MRS. C. D. SHERMAN, PRESIDENT.

The ladies who have had this blessed charity in charge, of distributing flowers among the sick in hospitals, have been

wonderfully repaid for their labor of love, for flowers never seem so sweet as when one is shut in from the outside world on a bed of sickness. They have also distributed them in children's homes, missions, day nurseries, and many private families where sick people could be found. We are indebted to friends in Andover, Marlboro', Brookline, Newton, Everett, Marblehead and Jamaica Plain for flowers.

The number of bouquets distributed was 1,664, an increase of 260 over the preceding year.

REPORT ON THE GIRLS' INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

PRESENTED BY MRS. H. A. FARWELL, SECRETARY.

This school met for the first time Nov. 12, 1887. There were present 6 teachers and 18 scholars. It has to-day 230 scholars and 23 teachers. 900 garments have been made by the children for their own use. In two years there have been used 889 yards of cotton cloth, 801 yards of flannel and 414 yards of muslin. Many of the children thus aided were in the greatest suffering from want of clothing.

One cold day last January, two little girls came into our school with only calico aprons on, and an old shawl torn in two and wrapped around them. A gentleman, who is always ready, not only with kind words but with a helping hand, was visiting the school, and was much interested in them. He told our president to clothe them with every thing they needed and he would pay the bills. This was speedily done. One of the teachers gave the cloth for over twenty garments, which were cut by Mrs. Ludwick, the lady in charge of our dressmaking department, and as they were so much needed, she kindly took many of them home and finished them.

The school is specially indebted to Mrs. Abbie Campbell for her arduous labors for the success of the school, also to Rev. R. E. Hill and Mr. F. Briggs for instructing the children in music. We greatly regret the loss of our Superintendent, Miss Haley Gordon, by her removal to another city.

The officers at present are: Mrs. Abbie Campbell, President; Miss Grace Kelso, Superintendent; Mrs. H. A. Farwell, Secretary; Mrs. W. E. Jenkins, Treasurer. Executive Committee, Mrs. G. E. Kimball, Mrs. Windsor, Miss Emma A. Goodnow, Mrs. Mary A. Libby.

EXCURSIONS FOR POOR CHILDREN.

PRESENTED BY A. S. STAFFORD, SUPERINTENDENT.

Two excursions to the seashore were given during the summer and the children entertained for a day, some one hundred and twenty-five in all. The young people of the Jamaica Plain Baptist Church entertained some thirty-five children for a day in the woods, and provided games and refreshments which were greatly enjoyed by the children. The City Missionary Society sent some 500 car tickets of the West End horse-car railroad company to Franklin Park, which were used to good advantage.

OUR ICE-WATER FOUNTAIN.

This elaborate and tasteful structure (the elaborateness is mostly under the sidewalk) is a grand success. The policemen, the young and old, rich and poor, all say so. The total cost of the fountain was $267.69, all of which was generously assumed by the donor, Asa P. Potter, Esq. The fountain was dedicated in the presence of a large audience, Sunday evening, Aug. 18th. The amount expended for ice has been, up to the present date, $73.00. The money-box on the top of the fountain has collected only $8.62. Considering that much of the latter amount was contributed by newsboys, boot-blacks and very poorly dressed men, the offering is a grateful one. If we were to print all the expressions of hearty appreciation, they would make a small book. We will give a few samples. The children who are sent out at dinner time for ice-cold beer, immediately utilized the fountain, bringing pitchers, pails and bottles. One little fellow, whose mother was sick at home, happened along as the children were filling their pails and pitchers. In his excitement, he ran across the street, begged a paper bag, filled it at

the fountain and started home on a run. It is a question as to which beat, the boy or the bag.

One young man, as he drew a cup of water some weeks after the fountain was opened, said to a companion: "George, I haven't bought a glass of beer since they put up this fountain."

The young men from the theatres between 10 and 11 P. M. have patronized the fountain by hundreds every warm evening.

The dogs appreciate the basins provided for them at the base of the fountain. Police say that dogs in cities suffer intensely from thirst, and that most dogs which go mad do so from that cause alone.

The little children who attend the primary and grammar schools in the rear of Chardon Street have been assiduous patrons of the fountain. In the hottest days horsecars, teams and herdics are constantly stopping while the drivers jump off to get a drink. "Water is the gift of God."

FREE EMPLOYMENT BUREAU FOR MEN AND BOYS.

PRESENTED BY A. S. STAFFORD, SUPERINTENDENT.

Statistics for 1889.

Number of Young Men allowed to Register	548
Number of Young Men not allowed to Register	77
Number of Letters sent out	395
Number of References verified	349
Number of Situations offered	361
Number of Situations filled	301
Number of Situations permanent	176
Number of Situations temporary	125
Highest Salary obtained per month	$50.00
Lowest Salary obtained per month	$12.00

These figures represent a great deal of hard work and persistent effort on the part of the Superintendent.

REPORT ON THE RELIGIOUS WORK.

BY ALBERT S. STAFFORD, SUPERINTENDENT.

At a monthly business meeting of the Institute last Fall, it was voted to turn over its religious work to the Tabernacle

Church. Accordingly the work of holding meetings at the Bowdoin Square Lodging House, the Friendly Inn, and among the sailors, was taken up by committees appointed by the church. The church was, however, not prepared financially to conduct meetings on the Common and with the gospel carriage the past summer. Accordingly this work has been vigorously and successfully prosecuted by the Institute.

MEETINGS ON BOSTON COMMON.

Two services have been held on Boston Common every pleasant Sabbath from May till October, at 9.30 A.M. and 6 P.M. At the morning service we have found people waiting for it as early as nine o'clock. This service is generally attended by men who happen to be strolling about the Common; and those out for a morning walk have attended these meetings; and many poor fellows, who have had no other couch for the night than the soft, green turf, and too poorly clad to feel that they would be welcomed in the house of God, have gathered to worship with us in these open-air meetings. It has been a great blessing that our city fathers have given us permission to hold these services, that we may carry the glad message to these perishing souls.

Would to God that in every park and square of this, our beloved City of Boston, the good news that Jesus died for sinful man, might be sounded out. It would do more to reach and evangelize the lower classes of society and the non-church goers than any other method. At these meetings, men who were discouraged and on the verge of despair received new hope through the simple preaching of the Gospel.

At six o'clock, after the band concert provided for the public by the city government, the bugle call from the Ashman family quartette brought together a large number of people, many women and children, of that class who would seldom or never hear the Gospel preached, if it were not for these services.

Printed hymns from our Young Men's Institute are always distributed at these meetings, and the appreciation of the

services are manifested in the way that the crowd join in the singing. After a short address by one of our city pastors, or laymen, the people are invited to attend the services in the churches in the vicinity.

Number of services held were as follows:

Morning services, 17, average 400	6,800
Afternoon services, 20, average 950	19,000
	25,800

FOR SAILORS.

The ships anchored at our wharves have been visited Sabbath mornings, and many interesting services of prayer and praise have been held, sometimes in the cabin and forecastle, and again in the open air on the deck, wherever it was most convenient for the men to gather. We are welcome guests among the seamen. Many tracts and papers with good reading have been given the sailors, and their appreciation of them is shown by the way they read them and then exchange with other ships' crews for the papers they have received. Many seamen have been encouraged to attend divine worship in the churches. One of the river pilots has stated to us that he has noticed a deeper religious feeling among the sailors that come into our port during the past year than ever before.

FOR MEN WHO WORK ON THE SABBATH.

The large sale stables, fire engine houses and railroad men have been visited, tracts and papers have been distributed, and a word of good cheer has been given to the men as we passed on. We have tried to obey our Master's command, "This ought ye to have done and not to have left the other undone."

Number of Papers distributed in this work . . .	6,750
Number of Tracts distributed in this work . . .	4,560
	11,310
Number of Invitations to religious meetings . .	50,000

GOSPEL CARRIAGE.

There is a large class of people in our city who never attend our churches or places where they will hear of a better way of living, and they begin to think that nobody cares for them; they are soon discouraged. These form socialistic clubs and other societies dangerous to our free institutions. The problem has been how to reach this class of men. We have become convinced that it is only through the Gospel that this can be done. We visited the Mayor of our city, and he kindly gave us permission to use a Gospel carriage, and go into the lower parts of our city and teach those people that there is a God. 1,000 listened to us at one time. These services have been held at the North, South and West Ends, also at East Boston. The good that has been accomplished at these meetings can never be estimated. It is truly going out into the highways and byways and urging people to accept the Gospel. Tracts and invitations have been distributed by our corps of workers, and many from these services have been led to the house of God, and some we trust have been converted.

Number of services held were as follows:

8 services	average 400	. . . . .	3,200
8 "	" 600	. . . . .	4,800
8 "	" 800	. . . . .	6,400
2 "	" 1,000	. . . . .	2,000
26			16,400

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON WORK FOR BOYS.

PRESENTED BY THOMAS F. RYAN.

Soon after the opening of the Institute we commenced to hold a service every Sunday, at 12.30, in the Murdock's Home for Boys, at No. 15 Causeway Street. This has been a very fruitful work. We have obtained good positions for a number of the boys through our employment bureau. We invited some active christian workers to assist us in this work. They became interested and opened a mission and reading-room in the

store underneath the Home. This has been open every evening during the year, our committee assisting them when possible besides looking after the boys.

This joint-mission work has been so satisfactory, that the proprietor has given to the indepenent missionary in charge, Mr. O. N. Taylor, forty rooms, free of charge, to be used for general missionary work, and so the work has grown. Many of the boys are leading more useful lives, attending different Sunday schools and churches, and at an anniversary meeting held a short time ago, one of those boys arose, and with tears in his eyes, said that those meetings had changed his whole life, and he told of others, known to the committee, who had been equally blessed by them.

Our year's work for the boys has, on a whole, been very gratifying, and as we daily meet those whom we have been the means of assisting, yet we know that many who have gone to different parts of the country will not forget the kindly care we showed them, the interest we took in their welfare, and the efforts we put forth to encourage them to lead purer and nobler lives.

Samuel B. Thing, Treasurer, in account with the Tabernacle Young Men's Institute.

JANUARY 1, 1889.

Dr.

Income from Members	$626 00
" " Rooms	1,914 09
" " Industrial School	23 90
" " Missionary Training School,	458 00
Collections, Saturday Evening Concerts	760 23
Donations	1,730 68
	$5,512 90
	5,469 41
	$43 49

Cr.

Salaries	$386 00
Expenses of Concerts	419 44
Rent, No. 5 Chardon St.	500 00
Religious Work	423 59
Charity, helping poor families	187 51
Incidentals and Supplies	153 31
Fuel	175 02
Light	223 51
Advertising	205 90
Furniture and Repairs	1,058 18
Water Tax	63 75
Library and Stationery	83 09
Insurance	69 10
Annual Reports	78 00
Printing	78 92
Mortgage Negotiated	120 20
Children's Excursions	32 81
Industrial School	179 91
Laundry and Cleaning	93 08
Interest on Mortgage	590 00
Ice Water Fountain	267 69
Ice for Fountain	80 40
	$5,469 41

SECOND ANNIVERSARY EXERCISES

OF THE

Tabernacle Young Men's Institute

HELD AT THE

Baptist Tabernacle, Bowdoin Square,

Tuesday Evening, January 28th, 1890.

Speakers: Rev. Philip S. Moxom, Mr. W. H. Baldwin, President of the Y. M. C. Union, and Hon. E. M. McPherson, President Y. M. C. Association.

Mr. Moxom's address: —

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen: — Like most city pastors, I have the good fortune, or misfortune, according as you look at it, of being a very busy man; and under ordinary circumstances could hardly have turned away from my work to come here to-night. But, when Mr. Stafford, your indefatigable Secretary and Superintendent of this Institute, came to me, it was exactly like the coming of a regiment of troops with bayonets fixed, and I concluded the best thing to do was to surrender without a word; and so, I am here for a few minutes to talk to you.

It will be, I suppose, the proper thing to say that I am very much interested in this work. It is certainly the true and sincere thing to say, for I am very much interested in this report which we have just heard, and in the work which I know has been going on under the direction of this Institute during the past year.

After all, as Dr. Culger used to say, "the best way to do any thing is to do it." The best proof of the worth of any institution or organization, or anything else, is that it accomplishes results.

I often think of an old story which Wendell Phillips used to tell:

A company of men were gathered in a corner grocery in a little New England village, when suddenly a man rushed in and exclaimed, "Have you heard the news?"

"Well no," they replied. "Why, Squire So-and-So's barn burned down yesterday afternoon, and his carriage and his wagon are burned up, and so many tons of hay and a lot of grain, and his horses — they couldn't get them out in time — and various other things."

They all said it was very sad, and everybody seemed interested. Then they began to enquire how it happened, and he explained that there was a man out hunting, or at least he had a gun, and coming across a field near the house, he saw an owl sitting on the ridgepole, and he fired at it. The burning wad from the gun happened to lodge in the shingles and set fire to the barn.

After a great many expressions of condolence and regret had been made about the fire, one individual who was sitting quietly in the corner, apparently half asleep, as the conversation lagged a little, looked up with one eye half shut, and asked slowly, "Well, did he hit that owl?" It is always a pertinent question about a man who is taking aim, does he "hit the owl;" does he hit the mark?

About an institution with an object in view we ask, does it do that which it aims to do? I confess, I have heard few reports in my life that have interested me more, and given clearer evidence of real practical, helpful, Christian work in the largest and best sense, than this report to which we have listened to-night. It isn't usually the report that makes an impression, but in this case the report does make an impression.

Now, this report tells us something of what this Institute has

done here in the heart of this city. Of course, it doesn't represent all that has been done. There are no statistics nor figures which man can tabulate that are a sufficient measure of the results of faithful moral and spiritual work.

Such work always reaches farther than the statisticians go, and even if they do their best, they cannot by any possibility represent on paper the real value of such labors. Who shall measure the value of a single soul stopped in a career of evil and turned towards the brightest and best? The salvation of a life, thereafter to be spent in manliness, in morality, in righteousness, in faith and in the service of God? There is no measure for it.

Now, it is not necessary for a soldier in the ranks, fighting the battle, to know what is going on all over the field in order for him to be a good soldier. A good soldier is he who stands in the ranks, shoulder to shoulder with his comrade, fighting the enemy until he falls in the very front of the field, or until he sounds the note of victory. He can see only the space directly in front, for so almost always must soldiers fight. Not often have they much of a view of the field.

So, it is not necessary for a Christian worker in this world to see the whole field of conflict, to see the wide and multiplying relations in which he is placed by virtue of his work, to see the whole of the vast organization of which he is a part, the vast organism, I should rather say vital, throbbing with life, in which he is incorporated and which is accomplishing the great work of making manifest and dominant in the world the Kingdom of God.

But, at the same time it is wonderfully inspiring for a soldier to get the general's point of view. Perhaps it is his good fortune on some great day, to be appointed to some duty that carries him to an eminent point, where he can see the many lines of men engaged in deadly conflict, and see them surging forward here and sinking back there; now, with the colors so dear to him, advancing, now retreating; but the great line of the army as a whole steadily moving forward, and the enemy's line

breaking here and there, and already reeling in the struggle, as up go prophetic shouts of coming victory.

So, it is a good thing for the Christian worker to get on an eminence, to look over the scene of conflict, to understand more fully the great enterprise upon which he is engaged, and apprehend more clearly the great organism of which he is a part. I should like to take your thoughts to-night to such a point of view. I want you to go with me up to some eminence where we may see the conflict on all sides. Some one has said, "History has its hill-tops."

There is a sense of isolation that comes to workers in a great city. I don't know where a man can be so thoroughly alone as in a great city. There is no place, out in the solitude of the night, under the stars, where there is no human face, where a man feels so utterly alone, as in the heart of a great city. You and I have had that experience when sometime or other we have been set down, strangers in a great city, perhaps made more desolate by an experience of special sorrow or temptation, some mighty struggle, and we felt as though there was no soul we knew in this wide universe, but God. Perhaps we have felt at this point, the bitterest pang of grief, that we did not know even Him.

It is a good thing to feel the thrill of human fellowship; it is a good thing to feel the touch of human hands, to feel that we are knit up in the great body of our fellowmen. It is one of the most comforting and stimulating experiences in this world, to feel that we are sympathetically bound up in the life of the great mass of men and women whom God hath chosen, in whom and through whom He is organizing His kingdom.

You are doing a specific work. I say specific, but when I look over the list of objects named in the report, I can hardly call your work specific; and yet it is, for each object is specific and all are incorporated in one definite object, and that is to save men and to do them good.

The work you are doing here, at this Institute, is so great that if I should attempt to say all that it must amount to,

to many souls and lives, I should seem to exaggerate.

But I must remember that I am not the speaker to-night. Last summer in Berlin, I used to look out of my window in Friedrich-Strasse in the morning and see regiments of Prussian soldiers going to their daily drill, with their bands of music going before, — musicians on horseback, if cavalry; or on foot, if infantry, — playing martial airs. As I watched the bands, I would think: You fellows make fine music, but when it comes to the hard struggle, you don't amount to much. You are good to inspire men and lead them on the march, and get them up to the fighting place, then you give way to the music of musketry and artillery. The silent men who march behind are the ones for fighting, for actual work. To-night I am simply the bugler who rides in advance and sounds the music of the march; the musketry and artillery are behind.

You are solving the great social problem of our time. You are doing this, first, by the mediatorial work that you do in your Employment Bureau, for you bring work and workers together. The report shows a remarkable record in this particular for the past year, when one considers how many agencies are employed in this line. By your Circulating Library and Free Reading-rooms for young men and boys, you are awakening and stimulating intelligence, and thus making more capable workers. By your Industrial School, and other agencies you are inciting the young to form habits of industry and thrift, while teaching them how to work. By the wholesome amusements which you furnish, you are putting a fresh interest into life for many who peculiarly need this sort of ministry. Important as all these are, you are still more directly reaching to the heart of the social problem by awakening and developing a moral sentiment in the hearts of men, and doing it by means of the highest powers it is permitted us to employ. This you are doing by teaching spiritual truth, by bringing to bear on character the force of religious principles, by disclosing the regenerating fact of God's interest in men, and His love for them; and by bringing their lives in contact with the saving love of Jesus

Christ. You are thus disclosing the practical wisdom as well as the blessedness of a Christian life.

You are giving men wholesome amusements. This is a matter that has been too much neglected. There is no way of getting out bad except by putting good in its place.

Suppose you had a large room, and on the wall of that room a picture, beautiful in color and execution, fascinating to the eye, appealing in every line to the æsthetic sense, but a picture in which the artist has incarnated a sentiment of evil, in which he has put lust, some unholy passion, so that every time one of susceptible nature looks upon it, his mind receives a stain or a wound.

Suppose your boy is brought into that room. Instinctively his eye is attracted to that picture. You tell him, "You must not look at that picture. It is full of evil. There are elements of evil in it which destroy its beauty." You may talk to him till the crack of doom, and if he is like most young men, I know he will look at that picture.

But, suppose you have the wisdom to put another picture on the opposite wall, a picture which is as perfect in its detail as the other, if possible, more so, but a picture which is pure, and sweet, and wholesome, and then, when you tell your boy not to look there at that evil picture, you say, "look here at this picture." At once you engage his attention; the pure picture inspires his better thoughts, and you have won him from the evil to the good. It is madness to attempt to drive out evil and corruption in a city unless we put better things in their place.

If the saloon must go, it must go because something good, and wholesome, and sweet, is put in its place. If the low dance hall must go, it must go because something better is put in its place. We must work right along the line of the most sensible, practical and solid reasoning that we can find.

As I have said, nothing cheers a man so much as to feel that there are others about him, and in hearty fellowship of work with him. This sentiment of fellowship, this feeling of brotherhood, the clasp of hand with hand, the feeling that one is bound

up in the great unity of life, and love, and labor, is what makes possible the noble work you are accomplishing.

You can get a thousand young men to do work, if you can get them within the circle of a throbbing, living organization, who couldn't be induced to work alone.

Again, you are solving the great political problem of our time and country. The great political problem of to-day is not the ascendency of this or that party, but it is the development and preservation, or rather the preservation and development, of a sound-hearted, upright, self-respecting, and unselfish citizenship. An invincibly upright body of citizens, who shall serve the land by their best thoughts and noblest acts, is the only sure pledge of national strength. Just as far as you infuse into the minds of men the great truths, the great motives, and the great experiences of religion, just as far as you lift them out of the power of selfishness through the divine power of holy love, just so far you are making them men who shall be as a wall of defence that no power can throw down.

It is said that Phocas built a wall around his city, very wide and very high, and lay down to sleep, thinking himsulf secure. In the night a voice sounded through the streets, "Oh Phocas, Sin is in the city and it will throw down your wall."

Sin is in this city, this fair city of Boston, and it will throw down any wall which can be built up. But you, and those who are working with you throughout the city, are building up, not a dead wall of brick and stone, but in love to man and love to God, you are building up a great citadel of spiritual strength here in this city, a stalwart Christian manhood which will embody and preserve both liberty and law. I rejoice with you in this work, and bid you God-speed.

Gird up your loins for still better work in the year to come. Broaden and deepen all you have done. And you, who are here, sympathizers and friends, stand by these men with your prayers and your money. While I am speaking of money, I must say I haven't seen anything more significant to-night than the name of your Treasurer, S. B. Thing. I thought, there,

that's a bid for a collection, and they mean Some Big Thing. (laughter.) Now when you are thinking about the needs of this Institute, remember here is just the place for you to do some big thing. Put your money into it. It will bring bigger returns than Atchison, or Burlington. Let me close by saying, I rejoice with you, you brothers who are here at work, and you who are interested in the work, and I pray that God's blessing may be with you all, and that more and more, we all may be helpers in this work of saving our beautiful city and this beautiful land, until all men shall rejoice in the complete triumph of Him who gave His life for the redemption of the world.

Mr. Baldwin's address: —

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, Young People, Boys and Girls: to all I would say, I am very glad to be here to-night. I am very happy to be able to congratulate you upon such a large audience, so many members and friends interested in this grand work established here. I want to say, first, that when I left my home this evening and walked down Hancock Street, there was matter enough came up from my heart to talk to you about from now till midnight; for as I came down that street I looked up at the building on Lynde Street, which faces Hancock Street, which forty-three years ago was my first boarding-place when I came in from my native town, Brighton, now a part of Boston, to engage in business in this city.

I stood for a few minutes and looked up to the windows of the room I then occupied, and then thoughts came to me which would be food for reflection to me for many a day. I began to think of what became of my companions, the young men who used to board in the immediate vicinity, the friends I knew in my business, the young men I knew socially. If I should relate to the young men here gathered, if I should tell the young men of this Institute the history of some of these young men that come to my mind now, it would, I believe, cause them to take a solemn oath that they would lead honest, pure, upright lives, because of the power of such sad examples.

Thoughts of one young man with others, came to me as I walked down the hill; I remember what he said in my presence, years ago, as he was about to take one of the first glasses of intoxicating liquor he ever drank. I saw him go into a place where he would get it, and I said, "Oh, don't touch it!" He replied, "I know what I can do, and I know I can control my appetite." He went on, step by step, and that young man, who had a pleasant home, a good Christian mother, a kind father, brothers and sisters, plenty of money, everything to make him happy, and give him success in life, went down step by step until years ago he was laid away in the grave, and probably forgotton by almost every one except his own kindred. It was nothing but dissipation, and so I say to you, young men, beware of the intoxicating cup, and beware of dissipation of every kind. I am glad to see so many young people here, and I am glad this Institute is located where there are young people. This is the place for organizations of this kind, where there are young people. You could go down to the end of Long Wharf and no doubt secure a large building there that would cost you but a low rent comparatively, but where are you going to get your young people? There are no young people on the end of Long Wharf. But there are young people here, and I rejoice to see that you are placed where there are so many of the young to be reached. This is a grand work that you are engaged in, and I would like to see all the young people here that this place will hold.

There is a great deal said about the temptations of the city. There are temptations everywhere. You can't go into a country town of any size where there are not temptations! But think, young men, of the great advantages you have in the city. That is what you want to stop and consider, and appreciate — the advantages.

What does a young man get, who comes from Vermont, New Hampshire, or from the various parts of Massachusetts, into Boston? Nothing but temptations? No! I tell you. What does he find all ready for him? Institutions and organizations

like this, like the Association, like our Union, like the Public Library, evening schools, churches, Sunday schools of every denomination, — all these thinge. And so it seems to me one of the great lessons to try and implant in the hearts of the young people is, that there are great advantages for them in this great city to enjoy. And there is no excuse whatever for a Boston-born boy, or a boy who comes here and makes this city his home by adoption, there is no excuse for such a young man to go wrong.

One of the great lessons to impress on the hearts of the young, is the value of this existence God has kindly given us. Try and make the young people feel that it is a great blessing to be allowed to live. Let us all, each day as we look out and see the Sun in the morning, and breathe the air that our Heavenly Father gives us, feel grateful that we were allowed to be one of God's great earthly family.

I think oftentimes of an incident that occurred a few years ago, to show you how one of the greatest clergymen that we ever had in New England appreciates life. One of Rev. Phillips Brooks' blue-feeling and sad-at-heart parishioners said to him, "Mr. Brooks, I don't think there is much here worth living for. This is a mere vale of tears we are passing through." That great man, who is great in form, and soul, and intellect, and heart, — God made him great every way — promptly replied, "I don't agree with you sir, I would like to live here five hundred years." (laughter.) This is the true idea, it don't make any difference how long we live here, if when boys we start out right, and after that keep right, then we will enjoy life just as long as God spares us here.

I met an old gentleman the other day, one of our retired merchants, eighty-seven years of age. As I shook hands with him he said to me, "I am a very old man, a very old man." He was in good health, intelligent, bright, ready to talk, but he would say, "I am a very old man."

Said I, "My friend you are eighty-seven years of age, but there was a young man called at my office yesterday to talk

with me, only twenty-five to twenty-eight years old, but he was a great deal older than you are."

He looked at me with astonishment, to see what I meant. Said I, "You are physically in good condition, you have led a correct life, but that young man had gone down step by step, and inside of thirty years of age had become a moral and physical wreck. So I say, life is not reckoned by the number of years we have lived, but rather by the way in which we have passed those years.

Much, very much can be done by such organizations as this to impress upon young people the importance of an appreciation of the value of time. There is not a young man in Boston who has not a certain amount of time that he can devote to reading, at least one hour each evening. Think how much good every young man of this Institute can get from one hour of reading a day.

A few years ago, James T. Fields, for many years one of our most popular lecturers, died. In almost the last conversation we had together, as he was just home from a lecture tour through New England, he said to me, "Mr. Baldwin, I have been all through New England, and am now back to the city, and I want to say to you, that next to the intoxicating cup, the greatest danger to our young men and young women of New England to-day is the pernicious literature that is in many libraries, and other places where they can get hold of it and read."

Oh, my young friends, avoid this filthy literature that corrupts the body and the mind and helps to bring ruin in the end.

I recently called upon a gentleman in Boston, over eighty years of age, who said to me, "I go down State Street, but I only see a very few of my old friends. They are nearly all dead and gone, and if it wasn't for two blessings I greatly enjoy, I should be very lonesome. These make me happy and I am not lonesome a single moment. These two blessings are, that I still have my eyesight, so that by the assistance of glasses I can read; and the other is, that when I was a young man of nineteen years, I cultivated a taste for reading. And now I

go into my library and sit and read, and I am there with the great writers and thinkers, and every minute of my time, while there, is passed profitably and pleasantly, and I am not lonesome at all."

One of our friends here this evening, in his words to you made use of the word "lonesome." And I thought, yes, how many young people there are in this city to-night, how many thousands that are away from home, who are lonesome; and you can reach out and do your share to try to make them cheerful and happy, as we are trying to do at the Union — and as at the Christian Association they are trying to do — to reach out and extend the right hand of fellowship to these young men and young women, who so much miss the old home, and the dear ones there.

I am now reminded of what a friend told me a while ago. He and his wife had been to San Francisco and to the Sandwich Islands. They went first to San Francisco, and then took the steamer to the Sandwich Islands, 2,200 miles across the broad ocean, without seeing a single human being, except those on their own steamer, not a sail, not a steamer, nothing at all on that broad expanse of ocean. Lonesome, O how lonesome! They remained at the Sandwich Islands two or three weeks, and then came back over the 2,200 miles, and not a sail, not a vessel, not a human being except those on board the steamer; and I said to myself in thought, "Yes lonesome that steamer was, but there were thousands of young people in this city at that time, and there are thousands to-night, that are to a greater degree more lonesome than this little steamer, because they have such a lonesome feeling at heart, a feeling of sadness that cannot be gladdened by any more helpful power than by the kind acts of fellowship and Christian love that such an organization as this can give.

Now just a word or two more; I am sorry I cannot stay with you till the close. It is unfortunate sometimes that we cannot be in two places at once.

There is one thing I want to say, that report we have

listened to to-night, as Mr. Moxom has said, shows activity and hearty coöperation, and purpose; it shows that something has been done, a great deal done. But we must not be satisfied with what has been done. Let us look ahead. Remember what Jesus has said, "No man having put his hand to the plough and looking back, is fit for the Kingdom of Heaven." We must be up and doing. Life is short. There is too much of the spirit of apathy in many of our churches, societies and organizations. There is too much of this feeling of apathy. Too many are satisfied to merely plod along without seeming to take a lively interest in the work; but I am glad to see you are wide awake, and I hope you will keep on in this way until you get your new building, and even after that. This new building you now need for your work, and you, and your friends feel that you have got to have it, (Amen! Amen!) There are people in this city ready to make a good investment, and it seems to me that they will be glad to help you.

Speaking about this apathy or lack of activity, reminds me of what a friend told me a while ago. He went down to Plymouth last summer, and as he sat at dinner at the hotel, he spoke to one of the waiters, a colored man, who was near him, and said, "Neighbor, what kind of a place is Plymouth?"

"Plymouth, sah? Plymouth am a fine place."

"Well, but what is it noted for? Why do people come here?"

"Come here to see the Plymouth Rock, sah."

Said my friend, "What is the Plymouth Rock?"

"Why, a great big rock right out here, sah. I will show it to you, sah, after dinner."

"Why do the people come here for to see the rock? What is the rock, anyway?"

"Well, I'll tell you what Plymouth Rock am, it's where they landed"

"Where who landed?"

"Why our forefathers, sah. Yes sah, they came over from England and Holland, years ago, sah, and landed on this rock."

"They left home and come over here, three thousand miles and landed on this rock? What did they leave their homes and come over here for?"

"I'll tell you, I'll tell you, sah, what made them do dat. It was on account of *religious prostration.*" (Laughter.)

Now we must be careful we do not have too much of this "religious prostration." We must keep moving. Let every department represented here to-night in this report be kept wide awake, and then there will be no question but what success will crown your united efforts.

I will say in closing, I am very glad to have been here. I could take up the report presented this evening and refer to the different points of practical work, and speak of each, and urge upon you its importance, but I know your directors and committees will take the full report up in a practical way, and I believe that you will go on, step by step, until you become a much greater power than you are today. You will rejoice in your work, and not only will the young men and young women rejoice, but the parents in the country, and the parents in the city, whose sons and daughters are benefitted by this institution, will be glad and rejoice.

One thought comes into my mind, let me repeat this and I will close. I want to say to the young men who belong to this Institute, that you must not rest upon merely belonging to it yourself. You must go out and help others to come in and become members and co-workers with you. The influence of young people in every community is great. They are apt to think they are of little importance in church work, or in any organization, but the influence of each and every individual is great, for good or for evil, and it is always for the one or the other.

This touching and sad incident comes to my mind: Some few years ago a lady called to see me at my room at the Christian Union, and while there, said to me, that she had just come from the bedside of a young man, who had just died. He was a young man who had been wild, had been dissipated,

whose influence had been for evil, who had then done wrong, and was now fully conscious of it when on his death-bed, and while he lay there, knowing that in a few moments he must pass away from earth, his thoughts went back over his life with lightning speed, and as he recalled the past he reflected upon what he had done, and then he asked of those gathered around his bedside, that they would grant him one request. It was a request that was impossible for them to grant, but I repeat to you what it was. He said to those around his bedside, "after I am dead and gone, gather up my influence and bury it with me."

Think of that, young men! A young man dying, to ask those around his bedside, kindred and friends, to gather up his influence and bury it with him. My young friends, this cannot be done, it is impossible. Whether our influence has been for good or evil our friends cannot, after we are dead and gone, gather it up and bury it with us. It will live. The influence of every one of this audience, old or young, will live. There is not a person here to-night, who is not every day exerting an influence for good or for evil.

Let me say to you, young and old, is it not our duty to try, so far as we can, to see that our influence may be for good, so that when we lie down for our last sleep we shall not feel, as we are leaving this for another world, that we want to ask of our kindred and friends, who may survive us, to gather up our influence and bury it with us.

Mr. McPherson's address: —

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, — I will not detain you but a few moments from the feast that you are to have in the singing of the quartette. The best piece is yet to come, and I hope nobody will leave until it has been sung.

When Mr. Deming invited me, I could not very well refuse to come here and say a few words to you, for he was so long the Secretary of the B. Y. M. C. A., and because Mr. Stafford, the Superintendent, of this Institute, whose anniversary we

are celebrating to-night, was perhaps his most efficient worker. The only thing I ever had against Mr. Deming was, that when he left us he took Mr. Stafford with him, who has done such noble work here. Perhaps he has accomplished more than he would with us. However, we never appreciated him so much as when we lost him, which is the usual way.

I simply come to-night as a representative of the B. Y. M. C. A. to bring its greetings and congratulations to you. You are engaged — this Institution is — in a noble work. I had occasion at the anniversary of our Association to dwell expressly upon one point — employment for those out of employment.

What is a young man to do in a great city, without friends, without money, and out of work? It is all very well to talk about religion to him, and moral character, and all the good things of this life, but the first thing is to give him the means of support, that he may be an independent, honest man, so that his mind may be at rest, that he may devote himself to things that are higher than merely looking out how he shall earn his daily bread. I intend that our Association shall give more attention to that, and I am glad that you are doing it in this part of the city. If it is hard for a boy or a young man in the city among strangers, how much worse is it for a girl, for a young woman? These street boys, selling papers, boot-blacks perhaps, somehow or other seem to get along after a fashion, but the lot of a girl is even worse.

I think the Christian public have done a great deal for young men, and I was very glad when the Young Women's Christian Association was organized in this city. I think too little attention is given to the young women. The boys somehow seem to get along, but what can a girl do in a strange city? Among strangers, as George S. Hillard said, "Alone in a crowd."

There is another excellent work that this Institution is doing, having a free Reading-room and Circulating Library for boys. It has been said in the addresses that have been made, nothing is more demoralizing or injurious to young minds than these

impure pictures, either pictures painted, or pictures of thought that are printed, that are impressed upon the minds of the young.

These impressions last,

"Childhood can never die; wrecks of the past
Float o'er the memory, bright to the last."

So an impression made on a boy's mind lasts forever, either for good or ill, and if we can get them to read good books, get their thoughts off bad books; if we can get their thoughts off evil things, they will be certain to have good thoughts. Nature abhors a vacuum, and so does the mind. The only way to get out the bad is to press in the good. I am glad this Institute is doing what it can in this direction.

There is another thing that this Institute is doing, and that is this Flower and Fruit Mission. One of the most beautiful things of the present day is the attention paid to the sick in hospitals. There are some patients there, lonely, away from home, from kindred and family, and some one brings in a little bouquet of flowers, and how it cheers them. Flowers are always beautiful, and they bring so much sweetness and consolation. This is a beautiful mission.

I can't help thinking that there was a time when the different denominations had very little to do with each other, and I think the great work that the Association has done in the direct work of reaching young men hasn't been a tithe of what it has done to bring the different Christian denominations together, to work together. Their indirect influence has been ten fold more than their direct work.

I remember one day we were discussing something about a President for our Association. The President had been a Baptist, and had been there five years at that time. We were discussing about some one to succeed him. One of the gentlemen (a Methodist) said, "Why, I thought he was a Methodist!"

Our President had been there five years and they didn't know his denomination. (Laughter.) You see they all work

together, one in the great cause of reaching men and building them up morally and spiritually. These are the things we are trying to do.

In times past, the churches and Christians have spent too much time over ecclesiastical and doctrinal points, but the great characteristics of the present day, I think, is action — the work of going out and reaching for those who are lost, going out for those who need a helping hand and giving it to them. Not trying this thing, and discussing this or that doctrine, but going forth to rescue the perishing and lift up the fallen, to give a helping hand to those who need a helping hand ; and all denominations are working together.

Now, I bid you the Godspeed of the Boston Young Men's Christian Association, and trust the years to come may be even more successful than the years which have passed.

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Great Advantages and Opportunities for Young Men.

Splendid Parlors, Library, Reading Rooms, Evening Classes, Concerts, Excursions, Social Gatherings.

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For Young Men. Open daily from 9 to 11 A. M.

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S. B. THING, Treasurer,

Or A. S. STAFFORD, Ass't Treasurer,
5 Chardon St., Boston.

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Will not be used for the current expenses, but will be devoted, exclusively toward purchasing a building, which is so greatly needed by the young men of this part of the city.